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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF CHURCH

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

1952

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor R. N. GRIMSHAW, Chairman to May, 1952.

Councillor W. H. STOKES, Chairman from May, 1952.

Councillors :

D. BARNES, to May, 1952

G. W. CLEGG

D. EGLIN

J. P. HARGREAVES,
from May, 1952

J. W. HOPLEY

J. KELLY

G. H. MOUGHTON,
from May, 1952

T. PRIESTLEY, J.P.

R. RAWLINSON,
from May, 1952

C. ROGAN,
from May, 1952

H. SMITH, J.P.

W. H. STOKES,
to May, 1952

J. WILD, to May, 1952

J. WILSON, J P.

Medical Officer of Health :

FRANK W. PARE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Part-time Officer.

Sanitary Inspector :

J. L. PALK, M.S I.A.

Clerk :

D. S. FINNEY.

Health Department,
38, Blackburn Road,
Church,
August, 1953.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Church Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Urban District of Church for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

The District remains free from any serious outbreak of infectious disease, and the improved infant death rate has been maintained.

Vital statistics are provided by the Registrar-General.

I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspector and the Clerk of the Health Department for their help during the year.

I wish also to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee, together with the Clerk of the Council and all other officials for their valuable assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours Obediently,

FRANK. W. PARE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	528
Population (Census 1951)	5,199
Population estimated mid-1952	5,564
Numbers of inhabited houses (end of 1952 according to rate books)	1,998
Rateable Value	£34,117
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£130

Social Conditions and Chief Industries in the Area

The occupations of the inhabitants of the area remain mainly similar to those of the previous year, namely: Weaving, bleaching, finishing and engineering.

There have been no special noteworthy cases of sickness or invalidity during the year, nor does there appear to be any conditions of occupation or environment which have been prejudicial to health.

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population of 1952 is 5,564, and shows an increase of 281 on the population of 1951.

The census of 1931 revealed a population of 6,185, whilst that of 1951 indicated the number of persons living within the district to be 5,199.

Live Births

	Total		Males		Females
Legitimate	81	...	49	...	32
Illegitimate	7	...	3	...	4
	—	...	—	...	—
Total	88	...	52	...	36
	—	...	—	...	—

Still Births

	—	...	—	...	—
Legitimate	4	...	3	...	1
	—	...	—	...	—

Total Registered Births

Total Registered Births, 1952	92
Total Registered Births, 1951	100

Live Birth Rate

For year 1952 per 1,000 estimated population ...	15.8*
For year 1951	18.7
For 5 years' average 1947-1951	18.84

* 1952 adjusted birth rate comparability factor 0.99 = 15.7 per 1,000.
England and Wales 1952 = 15.3 per 1,000.

Still Birth Rate

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for 1952 ...	43
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births for 1951 ...	10

Total Registered Deaths

		Males		Females		Total
1952		33	...	44	...	77
1951		47	...	52	...	99

Crude Death Rate

For 1952 per 1,000 estimated population	13.8
For 1951	18.7
Mean of 5 years 1947-1951	15.78
Corrected Death Rate (comparability factor 0.95)	13.1
England and Wales, 1952	11.3

Maternal Mortality

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion, 1952	1
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion, 1951	0
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births in 1952	10.87
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births in 1951	0
Mean of 5 years 1947-1951	2.09

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1952		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
Male		1	...	0	...	1
Female		1	...	0	...	1
1951						
Male		1	...	0	...	1
Female		1	...	0	...	1

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births, 1952	23
All infants per 1,000 live births 1951	20

Deaths of Infants Under 4 Weeks of age

1952		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total
Male		1	...	0	...	1
Female		1	...	0	...	1
1951						
Male		1	...	0	...	1
Female		1	...	0	...	1

Death Rate of Infants Under 4 Weeks of age

Mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 1952	23
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 1951	20

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1952

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	4	12
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	1	6
Coronary disease, angina	2	5	7
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	2
Other heart diseases	6	9	15
Other circulatory diseases	—	1	1
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformation	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	5	9
Motor vehicle accidents	—	2	2
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	33	44	77

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1952

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis is shown in the following table.

TABLE II

Disease	Cases Notified											Hospital		
	Total cases at all ages	Years									Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital from district	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district	
		0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over				Age un-known
Scarlet Fever.....	2	...	..	1	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	2	...	12	26	22	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia	2	...	...	..	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	1
Food Poisoning.....	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1
TOTALS	72	0	13	28	25	2	1	2	1	0	0	4	2	1

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS) 1930

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board. The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board and the Public Health Department is notified of housing conditions and environment generally. Necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified and deaths from the disease during 1952.

TABLE III

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
25—	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
35—	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
	2	5	0	0	1	1	0	0
TOTALS	7		0		2		0	

The following table indicates the number of persons on the register at 31st December, 1952, in accordance with the Public Health (Tuberculosis Regulations), 1930. Although there are the same number of persons on the register as at the corresponding period of the previous year the number of persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis has increased by 5.

TABLE IV

No. of Persons on Register 31st December, 1952									
Total Cases	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulm. & Non-Pulm.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
34	13	14	27	6	1	7	19	15	34

No deaths of non-notified tuberculosis were received.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925:

No action has been necessary under the above regulations, which concern workpeople, suffering from tuberculosis, in the milk trade.

Disinfection after Infectious Disease

Rooms of 3 houses were disinfected during the year by means of spraying with the disinfectant Killgerm.

The steam disinfecter is not now available.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172

Removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

No action was necessary.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of attention.

No action was necessary.

The following Sections of the Report, viz.:—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA,
HOUSING and INSPECTION and SUPERVISION
OF FOOD

have been prepared by

Mr. J. L. PALK, Sanitary Inspector
(Cert. S.I.Bd., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and other Foods,
Cert. R.S.I. Smoke Inspectors).

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

Water is supplied by the Accrington District Water Board, and to 101 premises by Oswaldtwistle Urban District Council.

The water is obtained from moorland catchment area and deep wells.

Water is supplied from public mains direct to 2,014 dwelling houses with a population of 5,564, and the supply is considered generally satisfactory in respect both of quality and quantity throughout the area.

A number of complaints of an insufficient supply were received which may be due to local conditions although at times the mains supply has not been wholly as desired.

On occasions the water supplied by Accrington and District Water Board has given cause for complaint arising from an earthy taste and odour, which appears to be only one of the many difficulties before the Water board.

Two samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and three for chemical examination and all samples with the exception of one chemical were satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage

The condition of certain sewers is not entirely satisfactory in periods of dry weather when offensive odours are emitted from man-hole covers at street level. The introduction of additional means of ventilation should effect an improvement.

Closet Accommodation

No. of privy middens	0
No. of closets attached to those middens	0
No. of pail closets	3
No. of dry ashpits	0
No. of moveable ashbins	2095
No. of fresh water closets	1415
No. of waste water closets	1186
No. of trough closets	11
No. of houses which have no separate closet accommodation ...	82
No. of houses on water carriage system	2012

Closet Conversions

No. of waste water closets to fresh water	19
No. of trough closets to fresh water	0
No. of new water closets made thereby	0

Progress continues at a slow pace, as is indicated by a conversion rate of approximately 20 a year with about 1,200 waste water closets in use.

Waste Water Closets and Drains

179 complaints of choked waste water closets and drains have been attended to by Local Authority workmen. This number, which during the past three years has shown a welcome steady decrease, may be with a little more care on the part of the householder still further reduced.

Shops Act, 1950

Inspections have been carried out in respect of ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences of shops which consist mainly of the house and shop type.

Five contraventions have been remedied by the occupiers.

In addition 275 inspections were carried out for the Lancashire County Council, who are the Local Authority for certain sections of the Act.

Camping Sites

There are no camping sites in the district.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution

A standard deposit gauge was set up in the Council's yard at Alleytroys Wharf, on the 1st April. The collecting bottle is changed on the first day of every month and the contents of the exposed bottle are analysed by the Borough Analyst, Burnley, in accordance with the requirements of the Atmospheric Pollution Section of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Monthly reports are sent to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and also are exchanged with Oswaldtwistle Urban District Council.

A graph showing the pollution expressed in tons per square mile and rainfall collected each month is given. The heavy pollution collected in December coincided with the days of foggy weather.

In the 9 months period the gauge indicated that polluting matter consisting of ash, tar, carbon, and combinations of sulphur and chlorine, fell at the rate of approximately 30 tons per square mile each month.

Grit Nuisances

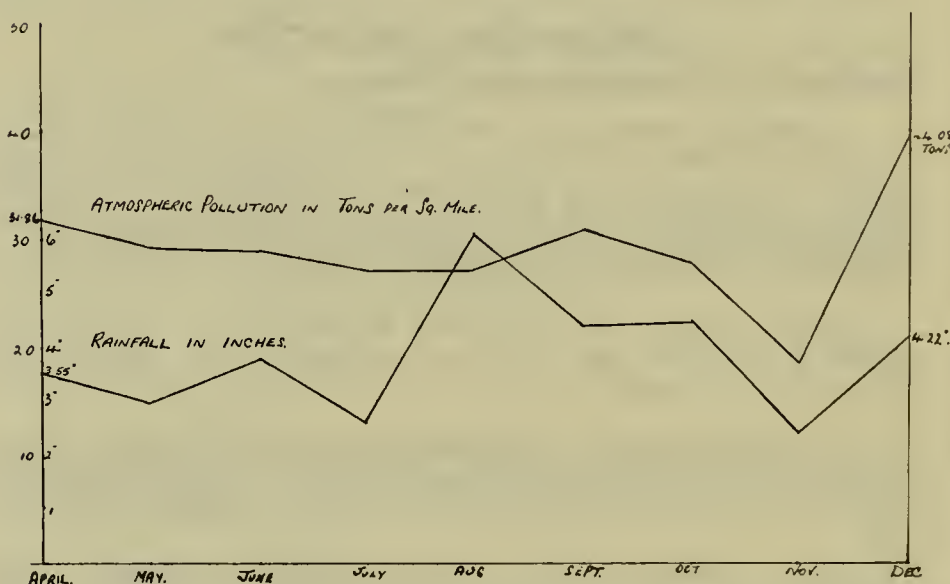
In two separate areas of the township heavy deposits of grit and ash have caused at times considerable nuisances over a period of years. At one works a grit arrester to one of the two offending boilers is promised to be fitted early in the new year. At the other, the improvement obtained in the previous year has not been maintained but it is understood that further work of improvement will be put in hand.

Emissions of Smoke

Although industrial chimneys within our own area are not entirely all that can be desired, chimneys situated adjoining our westerly border have been the cause of joint informal representation to reduce smoke emission.

Improvements are being effected at the works concerned but more must be done before the emissions are reduced to desirable limits.

GRAPH SHEWING ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION COLLECTED
EXPRESSED IN TONS PER SQ. MILE,
AND RAINFALL IN INCHES
1st APRIL — 31st DECEMBER, 1953.



Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools within the district.

Schools

Although the buildings are not modern the conditions are fairly satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Removal and Disposal

A weekly service of refuse collection is maintained, and the refuse is transported to Farholmes Tip by means of a Karrier Bantam Refuse Vehicle of capacity 7 cubic yards. Farholmes Tip is situate on the border of the Local Authority, some considerable distance from habitation, and the tipping is carried on by the recognised controlled methods. The refuse removable service is under the control of the Sanitary Inspector.

Although as before a recognised type of refuse vehicle is employed in this built-up area, a vehicle specially designed for dust-less loading would prevent the spraying of dust when bins are emptied into the vehicle.

It is regretted that although every house is provided with a dustbin, over a period of time a number of ashpits not used as bin sheds became a depository for builders' and household refuse. This additional work reduces the frequency of emptying dustbins.

These undesirable ashpits appear to be a problem, as wh'lst they remain in existence their attraction for refuse remains.

Provision of Dustbins

During the post war years increasing numbers of Local Authorities have found themselves involved in a dispute with some landlords over the question of replacing a dilapidated dustbin; the dustbin in the first instance having been supplied by the owner of the house.

Disputes have been heard in courts of summary jurisdiction and decisions agreeing and disagreeing with that of the Local Authority have been widely reported.

At the beginning of the year the Council had before them a refusal from a landlord to replace a dilapidated dustbin at each of two houses; after considering all aspects of the matter including the decisions of courts of summary jurisdiction and appeals, it was decided that the Local Authority would supply and maintain the dustbins of houses in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936 Sec. 75 (3) the cost of which would be recovered as part of the general rate.

Street Cleansing

This service is being performed mainly by men of age over 65 years, and does not attract younger men.

Salvage

The separation of salvable material from household and factory refuse has continued during the year but on a much smaller scale than previous years.

The following is a summary of materials collected and sold:—

	T.	C.	Q.		£	s.	d.
Kitchen Waste	52	18	3	...	170	17	4
Waste Paper	32	14	1	...	320	12	1
Tars	115	dozen		...	2	3	1
	85	13	0		£493	12	6

The amount of kitchen waste sold for animal food to the central cooking plant in the district, which receives also kitchen waste from surrounding Local Authorities, has been maintained.

The receipts for the sale of waste paper are approximately 40% of that of the previous year although the tonnage sold was 60% of that of 1951. This large decrease is illustrated by the fall in price from £15 10s. 0d. a ton in March, to £6 5s. 0d. a ton in October.

It should be taken also into consideration that in the years preceding 1939 salvage was treated as refuse and tipped, and if that method of handling and disposing of all refuse returned the present cost of collection and disposal would be increased.

Disinfestation

5 houses including two Council houses were found to be verminous, the types of infestation consisting of bugs 4, fleas 1. All infestations were successfully treated by the Local Authority.

In one instance only was the infestation reported by the occupier in order that the necessary remedial measures could be taken.

FACTORIES

The number of factories on the register in accordance with the provisions of the Factory Act, 1937, is 8 Non-power and 43 Power.

Non-Power Factories

Eight inspections were carried out in respect of cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and sanitary conveniences, and no contraventions were observed.

Power Factories

Fifty-nine inspections were carried out in respect of sanitary accommodation. Four contraventions were observed and were remedied during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS, 1952

No. of premises visited	3922
Defects or nuisances discovered	511
Defects or nuisances abated	445
No. of notices served—(a) Informal	344
(b) Statutory	1
Legal Proceedings	0

CLASSIFICATION OF INSPECTIONS

Houses—complaints and re-visits	434
Interviews—owners and property repairers	273
Choked waste water closets and drains	128
Examining drains whilst work in progress	33
New drains	29
Conversion of waste water closets	62
Dust Bins	135
Refuse removal and disposal	240
Salvage	96
Street Cleansing	60
Public conveniences	41
Factories	72
Food-preparing premises, butchers' shops, meat-pie factories, fried fish shops, ice-cream, bakehouses, cafe kitchen and canteens	168
Shops and offices	61
Atmospheric pollution-observations, interviews and inspections	183
Infectious diseases and food poisoning	36
Dirty and verminous premises	40
Rodent control	48
Council houses—tenancies, inspections and interviews	180
Shops Act, 1950, Inspections for L.C.C.	267
Sundry Inspections	86
Rodent control—Operator's visits	1250
	<hr/> 3,922

Improvements Effectuated

Dwelling Houses—	
Roofs	34
Gutters	24
Downspouting	10
Windows—Sash cords	10
„ Repairs	14
Ceiling plaster	7
Wall plaster	4
Floors	2
Doors	7
Internal walls waterproofed	1
External Walls	4
Chimney stacks and flues	2
Handrails	0
Drains	40
Waste water closets	20
Water closets	15
Dust Bins	95
Cleansed and/or vermin destroyed	7
Miscellaneous	12
Food premises	9
Shops Act	5
Rats and Mice	100
Miscellaneous	8
Factories	4
Refuse deposits	11
	445

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The rodent control scheme has continued throughout the year with much success.

The present arrangements whereby the services of the rodent operator are shared by the adjacent Urban District, Oswaldtwistle, and this Local Authority, continue to function satisfactorily.

Treatment has been carried out using the methods as recommended by the Directorate of Infestation Control.

During the year free treatment to dwelling-houses was given by the Local Authority.

Ninety-nine treatments against rodents were carried out as follows:—

	Private Dwellings.	Business Premises.	Local Authority
Rats	0	38	11
Mice	44	6	0
	44	44	11
Total	44	44	11

In addition, two treatments of the sewers have been carried out, which, in my opinion, play a large part in reducing the rat population of the district.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of houses erected during the year:—	Prefab. dwellings T'por'ry, Permanent		Traditional permanent houses flats	
	houses	flats	houses	flats
(i) By the Local Authority	0	32	12	8
(ii) By other Local Authorities ...	0	52	24	0
(iii) By other bodies or persons ...	0	0	0	5

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses

1	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	41
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	48
2	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
3		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
4		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under 3) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	41

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	31
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3 Action under Statutory Powers

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		2
2	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
	(a) By owners		1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...		1
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied		1
2	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—		
	(a) By owners		1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...		0

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
1	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
2	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
2	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. Housing Act, Part IV—Overcrowding

(a) 1 Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year			1
2 Number of families dwelling therein			1
3 Number of persons dwelling therein			11
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year			0
(c) 1 Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year			1
2 Number of persons concerned in such cases			5

5. Housing Act, 1949

No action.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

On the completion of the contract for 60 houses during October the number of applicants for council houses was reduced to a small number. The building of one bedroom bungalows continues to supply a need and is much appreciated by the occupants.

It is regretted that the only case known of overcrowding continues to exist, as the family did not accept an offered council house.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The conversion of waste water closets.

The conversion of trough closets at factories.

The achievement of a cleaner atmosphere.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk Supply

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the District	0
(b) Dairy Farms in the district	0
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies	27
(d) Premises outside the district	7

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers' licences including supplementary licences issued by the local authority during 1951 in respect of :—

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	7
Accredited Milk	0

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of licences issued in respect of Heat-Treated Milk:—

Pasteuring Plants	0
Sterilising Plants	0
Retail Distributors—(a) Pasteurised	13
(b) Sterilised	29

Action taken by Local Authority in relation to :—

(a) Raw Milk.

	No.	Sat.	Unsat.	No Result
(i) Tuberculosis biological tests ..	13	9	0	4
(ii) Methylene Blue Reduction test	15	14	1	0
(iii) B. Coli	15	13	2	0

(b) Pasteurised.

	No.	Sat.	Unsat.
(i) Phosphatase	3	3	0
(ii) Methylene Blue Reduction test	3	3	0
(iii) Tuberculosis	1	1	0

2. Meat and Other Foods

(a) There are no Slaughter Houses within the district. Meat is transported in closed lorries from Accrington Abattoir to butchers' shops.

74 inspections were carried out at food shops and vehicles, and I am pleased to report that on six occasions where it has been necessary to draw the attention of the occupiers to contraventions improvements were effected.

(b) Food Poisoning.

A mild outbreak occurred in a family of two adults and two children which necessitated a child of two years being admitted to hospital.

Although the cause of the outbreak could not be definitely established, staphylococcal bacteria (of a type responsible for a food poisoning) were isolated in raw milk which was obtained from hand milked cows.

3. Adulteration of Foods

This Local Authority is not a Food and Drugs Authority, and the work of carrying into execution and enforcing the section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:—

- (a) Which relate to the composition of food and drugs;
- (b) Which relates to additions not to be made to milk and liquids to be sold as milk;

and together with certain Orders and Regulations, with a view to securing that food and drugs are sold only in a pure and genuine condition, is performed by the County Council,

4. Control of Certain Premises where Food is Prepared for Sale and Sold

On the 1st April legislation controlling premises, where ice-cream is manufactured and sold, where sausages and potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food intended for sale is prepared, changed from the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, Sec. 115-116, to the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sec. 13-14 and the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, Sec. 14.

During the year 94 visits of inspection were made. Attention was paid to the cleanliness of the premises, appliances and personnel employed. In three instances improvements were carried out to registered premises.

Ice-cream

11 samples of ice-cream obtained from retailers were submitted for bacteriological examination. The following results were obtained.

Grade I	.....	4
II	.....	—
III	.....	3
IV	.....	4

The results of the sampling do not give a true picture of the general state as more samples were taken from a retailer whose first sample fell in grades III or IV than from a retailer whose first sample attained the first or second grades.

It is pleasing to find that many retailers, who sold ice-cream generally not in Grades I or II, have changed to selling products obtained from manufacturers whose ice-cream generally attains the desired higher bacteriological standard, although I suggest that perhaps reasons mainly economic were the cause for such decision.

